

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6-17, and 28-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Endo et al. (US 2004/0169653).

Claims 2-5 and 18-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo et al.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant submits that Endo et al. does not teach or suggest newly creating a new polygon data if an original polygon data contained in the background data included in the specified map data is partially contained in the slicing range and another portion of the original polygon data is outside the slicing range, by removing polygon data corresponding to the portion outside the slicing range from the original polygon data. Endo et al. merely discloses an art related to a bird's-eye view map. Namely, Endo et al. discloses in Fig. 7 that the trapezoid 72, set on a plane map as a region which is to be displayed in the bird's-eye view mode, is converted to the rectangular region 74, which is the drawing target, by coordinate transformation based on the affine transformation (paragraphs [0087]-[0091]). That operation is executed to display the bird's-eye view map (paragraph [0092]). Also, Endo et al. only discloses that map meshes 151 are clipped by a region 152 to be displayed in bird's-eye view (Fig 15A), which indicates that map data outside of the region 152 are cut off from the map meshes 151.

Endo et al. discloses that regions other than the rectangle region 74 are removed by the clip processing performed by the data clip means 64 (paragraph [0091]). That operation is only executed to obtain the map data used for

displaying the bird's-eye view 102 shown in Fig. 1 on the screen of the display 2 (paragraph [0092]).

In other words, Endo et al. simply discloses a method of converting from a trapezoidal shaped region to a rectangular shaped region, for bird's-eye view mapping. Thus, Endo et al. does not teach or suggest newly creating a new polygon data if an original polygon data contained in the background data included in the specified map data is partially contained in the slicing range and another portion of the original polygon data is outside the slicing range, by removing polygon data corresponding to the portion outside the slicing range from the original polygon data, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Endo et al.

Applicant submits that claims 10 and 17 are not anticipated by Endo et al. for reasons analogous to those for claim 1.

Claim 11 is amended herein.

Regarding the rejection of claim 11, Applicant submits that Endo et al. fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claim. In particular, Endo et al. does not disclose extracting road data corresponding to a first slicing range within a specific first distance from the route having been set and background data corresponding to a second slicing range within a specific second distance from the route having been set which is not equal to the first distance, based upon map data that include road data and background data. Instead, Endo et al. discloses that data of roads contained in a map around the current position are read in and compared with a travel locus to match the current position to a road

(paragraph [0065]). Also, Endo et al. only discloses that map meshes 151 are clipped by a region 152 to be displayed in bird's-eye view (Fig 15A), which indicates that map data in the region 152 are obtained from the map meshes 151 and outside of the region 152 are not obtained. Endo et al. does not disclose that road data corresponding to a first slicing range and background data corresponding to a second slicing range are extracted, according to claim 11, wherein each range has a different distance from the route. Therefore, claim 11 is not anticipated by Endo et al.

Claims 6-9, 12-16, and 28-34 are not anticipated by Endo et al., at least because of their dependence from claims 1, 10 and 11, respectively.

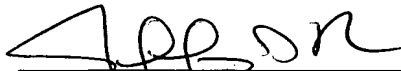
With respect to the rejection of claims 2-5 and 18-17, Applicant submits that these claims are allowable over Endo et al., at least because of their dependence from claim 1.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #029267.52835US).

Respectfully submitted,

May 10, 2005



Jeffrey D. Sanok

Registration No. 32,169

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
JDS:CWB:vlc
#374672